

Epiphany Outreach News

September 2010

Dates to Remember

Fridays 9-11am Sept – Dec.	St. Luke's Food Pantry, sign up online @ www.SignUpGenius.com/go/stlukes
Sat., Sept. 11 9am- 4pm	1 st Work Day @ the Blackstone Elementary School Library, contact Betsy at walshhome@mindspring.com
Tues., Sept. 14 7- 9pm	Outreach Kick Off Meeting @ Julie Dalton's house, 8 Niles Lane, Winchester.
Sat., Sept. 18 8am- 1pm	Serve breakfast and lunch @ St. Luke's, Chelsea, contact Claudia at claudiacantey@gmail.com
Sun., Sept. 26 2pm	El Hogar 5K Walkathon and Bikeathon on Winchester Town Common @ 2 pm, contact jennifer.rappole@verizon.net
Sun., Oct. 3 3- 5pm	Apple Picking with Brookview House @ Honey Pot Hill Orchards, contact juliecdalton@verizon.net
Sat., Oct. 16 8am- 1pm	Serve breakfast and lunch @ St. Luke's, Chelsea, contact Claudia at claudiacantey@gmail.com
Nov 1 - 18	Council for Social Concern Thanksgiving Basket Food Collection, contact MJ Olson @ tomjolson15@comcast.net
Sat., Nov 20 8am- 1pm	Serve breakfast and lunch @ St. Luke's, Chelsea, contact Claudia at claudiacantey@gmail.com
Tues., Nov. 23 2- 6pm	Turkey Wahoo @ St. Stephens, South End, contact Betsy at walshhome@mindspring.com
Sat., Dec. 18 8am- 1pm	Serve breakfast and lunch @ St. Luke's, Chelsea, contact Claudia at claudiacantey@gmail.com
Nov. 28- Dec 24	Advent Giving Tree representing all outreach organizations Epiphany supports

Epiphany Helps St. Stephen's Youth Programs Re-open the Library @ Blackstone Elementary

by Betsy Walsh



On Sunday, May 9th, 2010, The Rev. Liz Steinhauser preached and taught about the important work being done in Boston by St. Stephen's Youth Programs. Liz challenged us to help re-open the library at the Blackstone Elementary School which is located a block away from St. Stephen's church and is the school attended by many of the students in their B-READY Afterschool Program. The Blackstone is the 2nd worst performing school in the Boston Public School System and has been labeled a "turnaround" school meaning that its leadership has been replaced and all staff has had to reapply for their jobs. St. Stephen's has reached out to the newly appointed, young, energetic principal as a community partner and has asked to take on the library project as an immediate, tangible and visible symbol of change at the Blackstone. In order for them to do this, they will need cleaners and painters to spruce up the space, haulers and sorters to manage books, and people with library knowledge to catalogue and shelve the books. **The first work day at the Blackstone will be on Saturday, September 11th.** And, of course, they need books! We have collected books this summer in Hadley Hall and will continue to collect books this Fall. Please donate children's books (grades K-5) that are **new or used, in excellent condition and not outdated.** Please leave your books in the boxes in Hadley Hall. Monetary donations would also be appreciated as there will be many books to purchase. Make checks out to Parish of the Epiphany with "Books for The Blackstone" in the memo. These checks may be placed in the offering plate, in the Outreach mailbox or sent to the parish office. Please contact Betsy Walsh at walshhome@mindspring.com or 781-729-6598 to volunteer on Sept 11 or for more information. Thank you!!

**Join Us for Our Annual
Outreach Kick Off Meeting
on September 14
from 7-9 pm**



**at the Dalton's house
8 Niles Lane, Winchester**

Apple Picking with Brookview House, Sunday, October 3, 3-5 pm

By Julie Dalton

Join the mothers and children from Brookview House for an afternoon of apple picking at Honey Pot Hill Farm in Stow, Ma., from 3-5 on Oct 3. The cost is \$15 per person and includes a small apple-picking bag, cider and donuts, tickets for the hay maze and hayrides. For an additional \$25 you can sponsor a Brookview family to join us. The farm includes a farm stand and free petting zoo. Additional bags are available for purchase at the farm. If you can't make it, you can still sponsor a family. This Epiphany tradition is a great way to spend time with local friends, as well as get to know the wonderful families at Brookview House, a Dorchester-based shelter for homeless mothers and their children. Tickets will be on sale in Hadley Hall after the 10 am service Sept. 19th, Sept. 26th and Oct 3rd. There are many other opportunities to get involved with Brookview House throughout the year. Contact Julie Dalton @ juliecdalton@yahoo.com for more information about Brookview House or the apple-picking event.

Prepare and Serve Hot Meals at St. Luke's - San Lucas Community Kitchen



Chris and Nicholas Berns preparing lunch with
St. Luke's Warden, Rafael Soto

On September 18th, October 16th, November 20th, December 18th, members of Epiphany will cook and serve breakfast and lunch to 60-80 Chelsea residents. Please contact Claudia Bell at claudiacantey@gmail.com if you'd like to help with this important ministry.

**Join us for the
2nd Annual El Hogar 5K Walkathon and
25K Bikeathon
on September 26, 2010
@ 2 pm on the
Winchester Town Common**



Contact:

Jenny Rappole @

jennifer.rappole@verizon.net

or Betsy Walsh @

walshhome@mindspring.com

with questions.

Sign up to walk or ride online @

www.elhogar.org

St. Lukes- San Lucas Food Pantry, Chelsea



Continuing this fall, Epiphany folks will head over to St. Luke's on Friday mornings to help in the food pantry. We will meet the pick up truck delivery of food from the Greater Boston Food bank at 9:15, unload the truck, stock the pantry shelves and then bag food for distribution on Saturday morning. We generally leave by 11 am. Carpooling is available or if you choose you may drive there on your own. The pantry is easy to get to, has off street parking and children are welcome. Please visit www.signupgenius.com/go/stlukes to sign up to volunteer.



Jen and Katie Degnan and Clara McEleney
bagging food for distribution

A Thank You from Father Edgar

August 12, 2010

Dear members of the Parish of the Epiphany:

As we look closely to the Hebrew Bible and the New Testament, we notice a theme that keeps coming-up loud and clear: It is God's insisting, passionate plea for us to love our neighbor, to take care of those who are not as fortunate as we are, to feed those who lack food, to provide shelter and clothing to those who have lost it all. This expectation is so important that the Scriptures tell us that the most sincere and convincing way to express our love for God is by helping those who are in need (for example, see Isaiah 1:10-20, and the letter from James 1:27). This is what we call "living the faith."

Here at St. Luke's-San Lucas we have been witnessing, since last Lent, a moving, inspiring, and consistent example of authentic "living the faith" set by you, the people of the Epiphany. Every single Friday your teams come and help Rafael Soto –our church Warden/ Soup Kitchen coordinator/ Food deliverer- to take the food from his pick-up truck, bring it to the Pantry, sort it, and then place it in bags for the next day's distribution. This is hard work, and takes a good 2-3 hours of your Friday mornings, yet it is done cheerfully and with a wonderful team spirit.

We cannot think of anything more pleasing to God than this- especially when we consider that our Pantry provides food for 750+ people every month or 200 families not only from Chelsea, but also from Revere, Everett, Winthrop and even Boston. Most of these families have children, and they are from a wide range of backgrounds such as: White, Hispanic, African-American, African, Iraqis, Moroccans, Haitians, Chinese, and other groups.

Your loving and faithful assistance came right at a time when we were hoping and praying for more volunteers to help the very few who were doing this work then, and thus, it has been a true Godsend: You are making a great difference in our response to the problem of hunger in our area. On behalf of all those who come to St. Luke's-San Lucas seeking food relief, please accept our heartfelt thanks. May God bless you and rejoice in you!

Sincerely,

The people of St. Luke's-San Lucas...www.lukelucas.org

Other Opportunities-

Germaine Lawrence is a residential treatment facility for "at-risk" teenage girls in Arlington, MA. A group of women from Epiphany visits GL once a month providing activities like knitting, baking and yoga. Contact Karina Nolasco-karinolasco@comcast.net or Stephanie Terry-laststrah@aol.com to join this ministry.

Merrimack Valley Habitat for Humanity is a program that helps economically disadvantaged people build their own housing. Parishioners participate in Habitat work parties on the 4th Saturday of each month. Contact John Cuozzo-john.cuozzo@verizon.net or Mary Provo-mc.provo@verizon.net

Saturday's/ Sunday's Bread is a program that feeds the hungry in Boston. Parishioners volunteer to prepare and serve food on the second Saturday of the month. Contact Mary Provo- mc.provo@verizon.net

Outreach Planning and Visioning Meeting Summary

by Kate Reynolds

Over 20 parishioners met in June to brainstorm on how we see the Outreach committee moving forward with our current programs over the next 18 months while branching out to support new programs. Many great ideas surfaced and plans were put in place to structure the decision-making process to become more collaborative. We formed a team to review and update our mission statement, another team to create a list of criteria new missions need to meet to be supported by Outreach, and a grant team to determine how Outreach funds will be allocated.

BSAFE Camp Week- July 26-30, 2010

by Betsy Walsh



The Reverend Tim Crellin, his son and others from St Stephens sharing lunch @ Water Country



The Reverend Thomas Brown splashing down Geronimo at Water Country

Epiphany pulled off another hugely successful week of providing lunch, snack and Friday field trips for 150 BSAFE campers and staff. Thank you to the 5 fantastic and

brave lunch leaders, 34 generous parishioners who donated food, 39 energetic (and sweaty!) parishioners who helped on site at St. Stephen's and to Ellen R and Susan M who led the field trip at the Ecotarium and to Kate R and Thomas who joined the Middle School group at Water Country. This is a large group effort and I am always amazed by the generosity and enthusiasm that Epiphany throws behind this ministry. Thank you!

Update on Microlending

by Kate Reynolds

With the help of Kiva.org, Epiphany microlenders have been busy lending to entrepreneurs in Central and South America empowering women living in poverty to grow their small businesses. In June 2009 we lent \$100 to Naidya in Honduras for her clothing business and, when she repaid her loan, reused those funds for Claudia, another Honduran clothing entrepreneur. That December we loaned \$150, received from the Giving Tree, to an industrious group of 16 women in Paraguay who offered cleaning services and sold food and clothing. They quickly repaid their loan so we forwarded \$75 to La Criba Grocery Group in Honduras and another \$100 to the Guadalupe Retail Group in Honduras. Finding these dedicated entrepreneurs, believing in them, and following their success online has been rewarding and inspiring

News from Sri Lanka

by Judy Coltman



This year Marie Gosnell and I worked with Ellen Rockefeller in collecting children's books at the end of the church fair and with Suzanne McAllister in collecting books through a book drive with the Junior Choir. Thank you Marie, Ellen and Suzanne! Within the Epiphany family, we also coordinated with Julie Dalton in providing books to Brookview House.

Beyond Epiphany, we've sent 60 pounds of books to Sri Lanka. Our contact in Sri Lanka, Nirukshi, works with Emerge Global, a non-governmental non-profit organization, that teaches entrepreneurial skills through jewelry making to young girls who have become pregnant through rape or incest. Emerge works with 2 different

homes for young mothers and their babies. We've sent picture books, coloring books and crayons, and some small toys for the girls and their babies. In addition, and at Nirukshi's request, we've sent children's Christian books for her to hand out at her church. Below is one of Nirukshi's thank you emails:

Thursday, July 01, 2010

My dearest Judy,

Thank you very much for the books you sent me, they were awesome and I managed to organize a Literacy day for the newest home we are working with now. The girls were thrilled to receive them and thank you for your kindness.

I am attaching a photo of one of the books distributed.

Thanks again

Regards

Nirukshi

Nirukshi de Lanerolle
Bead Program Coordinator
Emerge Sri Lanka
www.emergeglobal.org

We've also sent over 100 pounds of books to the Recovery School District in New Orleans. RSD helps under-performing schools within Louisiana.

We've brought many boxes of children's books to the Reading Food Pantry for the clients to select books for their children and grandchildren. Suzanne sent some of the books she and the Jr. Choir collected to the Cardinal Cushing School in Braintree, with which she has a connection and we have supported in the past. Cardinal Cushing School has a variety of programs for the developmentally disabled.

Joining the Immigration Dialogue

*by Presiding Bishop Katharine Jefferts Schori
(forwarded from John Suhrbier, Epiphany's liaison to the
Winchester Multicultural Network)*

Most Episcopalians are aware of, and probably invested in, the current public debates about immigration in the United States. The 15 other nations represented in the Episcopal Church also are engaged in similar debates and struggles over the same issues of national security, economic and political refugees and the relative priorities of citizens and immigrants.

The Episcopal Church long has claimed a particular place in seeking to build divine visions into reality through engagement with our political, economic and social

structures – and not only in the United States. That engagement with society is a central aspect of the Episcopal Church's mission in every part of the world in which it exists – those like Honduras and Haiti, which still are part of this church, and those like Liberia and the Philippines, now in other provinces of the Anglican Communion. We believe that our faith has something essential to do with how we engage major social issues, and immigration is a central one at present.

We all agree that American immigration law is broken. Just and appropriate responses can be shaped in public conversations in which people of faith do and must have a voice. As you engage in that civic discourse, I would encourage you to learn more about the underlying issues and then gather with others in your congregation and in the larger community to reflect on a number of questions:

- What values do I as a Christian hold about the dignity of every human person?
- Should immigrants be treated differently from citizens and, if so, how and why?
- What values do I believe this nation should hold up as central?
- What are my own fears in the midst of this current debate?
- What is my prayer?

Read all of Presiding Bishop Katherine's article @:
<http://www.episcopalchurch.org/ens>

***For more information about the work of the
Mission and Outreach Committee,
please contact either-***

***Kate Reynolds at 781-729-9618 or
kateandjosh@kjreynolds.com***

Or

***Betsy Walsh at 781-729-6598 or
walshhome@mindspring.com***